

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF PORTO RICO
Office of the Commissioner
San Juan

Circular Letter No. 120.
April 21, 1914.

To Supervising Principals.

Gentlemen:-

Please forward to this office as soon as possible a list of the names of all the teachers of your district who claim that they will be entitled to life certificates at the end of the present school year by reason of having taught five consecutive years in their respective classes. We wish to check these claims with our records.

In order to be entitled to the life certificate a teacher must have taught not less than eight full school months in each of the five years. The full five years' experience must have been in the same class; that is, five years as rural; five years as graded or English graded; or, five years as Principal or Supervising Principal. The kind of license held at the present time does not affect the experience. For example, a teacher may have been holding a principal, English graded or graded license and teaching as rural. If he has had five consecutive years' experience as a rural teacher beginning with 1909 he will be entitled to a life certificate as rural. In no case whatever can experience in one class count for any other class; provided, however, that any person who has been teaching during the present school year as a

Circular Letter No. 130. p. 2.

special teacher will have his experience of this year counted toward the life certificate in any class in which he may have been teaching during the previous four years, (rural, graded or principal) This is being done due to the fact that many teachers who accepted special positions this year would have completed their full five years, experience in their respective classes at the end of this year. Experience as special teacher will not be counted for any other year.

Please make careful inquiry among all your teachers and then make up your list in alphabetical order, arranging the names in order of class: Supervising Principals, Principals; graded; (Graded and English graded are the same class) rural. No experience in night school work can be counted.

A copy of the law governing the granting of life certificates is being enclosed for your guidance.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) E. M. Bainter
Commissioner of Education

adlr
encl.

Encl. to C. L. No. 130.

AN ACT

TO ESTABLISH AND REGULATE THE GRANTING OF LIFE CERTIFICATES TO THE TEACHERS OF PORTO RICO.

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of Porto Rico:

Section 1.-That any rural, graded or principal teacher who shall have practiced satisfactorily his profession as such for five consecutive years, shall receive from the Department of Education a life certificate of the corresponding grade; Provided, That no period of teaching prior to July 1, 1909, shall be reckoned in computing the length of service.

Section 2.-That the Commissioner of Education shall not cancel the life certificate of any teacher except for cruelty, immorality, incompetency, insubordination or negligence in the performance of duty.

Section 3.-That all laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 4.-That this Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

Approved, March 12, 1914.